

TOWN OF MANSFIELD
Solid Waste Advisory Committee
Minutes of the Meeting
September 11, 2014

Present: Knox, Ames, Milius, Bob Morgan (guest), Sheldon (staff), Walton (staff)

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 by chair Knox.

The acceptance of the July 10, 2014 meeting minutes was approved on a motion by Ames/Milius.

Sheldon reported that he & his supervisors have been looking into a lease purchase of a Peterbilt vehicle that will haul the roll-off containers at the transfer station to Willimantic Waste Paper Company. The roll-off containers are currently hauled by Willimantic Waste Paper Company at approximately \$36,000 per year. An annual lease fee over a five year period would cost less than \$40,000. At the end of the five year period, the truck would cost \$1. Sheldon also distributed a quote from East Coast Containers for the purchase of five 50 cubic yard containers, three 40 cubic yard containers and one compactor with compactor box for a total of \$68,100. Currently, Willimantic Waste Paper does not charge rental fees for the roll-offs, but if the Town begins hauling, Willimantic Waste Paper will no longer supply the containers. Since the solid waste fund currently has a fund balance of \$286,167, committee members thought it prudent to move forward with the vehicle and container purchases.

Walton reported that she has two volunteers from EcoHouse to help with monitoring the waste stations at the upcoming Celebrate Mansfield Festival. She needs a lot more help. Milius said that she would ask the EO Smith Crew Team if they would be available to help. Two of the businesses by the town square, Husky Pizza and Sweet Emotions, have agreed to use compostable/recyclable take-out containers for the duration of the Festival, plus Dog Lane Café's practices are already low waste. The other food vendors along the square were either not agreeable to modify their practices or did not respond to Walton's attempts to contact them.

The committee reviewed multi-family service rates for 64 and 96 gallon trash carts, a temporary arrangement to collect 96 gallon trash carts six times per week at 8 Royce Circle while construction is underway next door, 8 cubic yard recycle dumpster collected six times a week and extra (on-call) dumpster collections. The committee approved, on a motion by Milius/Ames, the following recommended rates:

MF 64 gallon service - \$25.25

MF 96 gallon service - \$31.75

MF 96 gallon service six times per week - \$240

MF 8 cy dumpster six times per week - \$590

2 cy dumpster extra collection - \$35

4 cy dumpster extra collection - \$45

6 cy dumpster extra collection - \$55

8 cy dumpster extra collection - \$65

10 cy dumpster extra collection - \$75

Staff will take this recommendation to Town Council for their consideration.

Walton stated that she is preparing for the Repair Café scheduled for September 27, 2014 from 9 to 1 at First Congregational Church in Willimantic. The organizing group is looking for a few more electrical fixers, as electrical items seem to be the most common items brought in for repair.

The committee discussed offering organic land care workshops in the spring of 2015 that could include workshops on alternatives to lawns, organic lawn care, composting, water harvesting and permaculture. Walton stated that she attended a workshop on the potential for soil to capture and store carbon dioxide. The principles of soil carbon sequestration could be tied into the spring workshops. Both Knox & Ames reported that they would recommend the compost containers they are testing out and they should be considered for sale at the workshop series.

Future agenda items should include the recommendation to Town Council to adopt a zero waste policy.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 13, 2014.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Virginia Walton
Recycling/Refuse Coordinator